Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

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P R 111530Z NOV 74 FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3304 INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

SECRETSTOCKHOLM 5030

E.O. 11652: GDS1

TAGS: PFOR, VN, VS, SW

SUBJECT: SWEDISH VIEWS ONVIETNAM

REF: (A) STATE 247455, (B) STOCKHOLM 4921, (C) STATE 245718

1. I CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON THIS NOON (NOV 11) TO DISCUSS GVN CALL FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS IN FORUMS ESTABLISHED BY PARIS AGREEMENTS. EMBASSY HAD SEVERAL DAYS EARLIER SENT TEXT OF GN PROPOSAL TO FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR STUDY. I POINTED OUT THAT MOST IMPORTANT PART OF GVN STATE-MENT WAS CONTAINED INLAST SENTENCE, WHICH SPECIFICALLY CALLED FOR THE COMMUNIST SIDE TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS IN PARIS AND SAIGON WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS. THIS, I CONTINUED. WAS CLEAR INDICATION OF WILLINGNESS OF SAIGON GOVERNMENT TO START UP MACHINERY AGAIN UNDER PARIS TREATY WHICH ANDERSSON HAD PREVIOUSLY INFORMED US HANOI WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO (REF B). I SAID THAT UG HOPED THAT GOS WOULD EXERT ITS INFLUENCE WITH THE HANOI GOVERNMENT TO (A) DISSUADE THE NVA FROM UNDERTAKING THE KIND OF OFFENSIVE ACTION AGAINST THE GVN DESCIBED IN THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S EARLIER CON-VERSATION AND (B) TO ENCOURAGE THE HANOI GOVERNMENT TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THE GVN PROPOSAL TO RETURN TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE.

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2. ANDERSSON REPEATED WHAT HE HAD TOLD THE SECRETARY IN NEW

YORK, I.E. THAT GOS DID NOT HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF INFLUENCE WITH HANOI GOVERNMENT. HOWEVER, HE CONTINUED, GOS DOES HAVE CONTACT WITH NV THROUGH SWEDISH AMBASSADOR IN HANOI. I COMMENTED THAT NV HOLDS SWEDEN IN HIGH ESTEEM, AND OF COURSE GOS HAD GIVEN AMPLE AID TO HANOI GOVERNMENT. ANDERSSON AGAIN REITERATED THAT GOS DID NOT HAVE MUCH LEVERAGE WITH HANOI GOVERNMENT, BUT DID SAY THAT "PERHAPS WE COULD TALK TO NV GOVERNMENT ON QUESTION.

3. WE DISCUSSED VIETNAM SITUATION FOR FEW MINUTES, WITH ANDERSSON MAKING POINT THAT UNLESS PRG REPRESENTATIVE COULD BE GUARANTEED IMMUNITY, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR PRG TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS IN SAIGON, ALTHOUGH PROSPECTS FOR RESUMPTION OF PARIS TALKS MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT BETTER. I REPLIED THAT WE BELIEVED EVERY POSSIBILITY, NO MATTER HOW SMALL, OF GETTING PEACE TALKS BACK IN MOTION SHOULD BE EXPLORED. I SAID MY GOVERNMENT IS CONVINCED THAT THERE IS A GENUINE DESIRE ON THE PART OF THE GVN FOR A RESUMPTION OF TALKS. ANY ROLE SWEDEN COULD PLAY IN ENCOURAGING THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL FOR UNCONDITIONAL TALKS WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL. I CONCLUDED WITH POINT THAT WE WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN LEARNING OF REAL NORTHVIETNAMESE REACTION TO GVN PROPOSAL.

4. ANDERSSON DID NOT COMMENT FURTHER OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT GOS UNDERSTANDS THAT USG CERTAINLY DOES NOT WANT ANOTHER WAR IN VIETNAM. STRAUSZ-HUPE

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